

HF 32-27

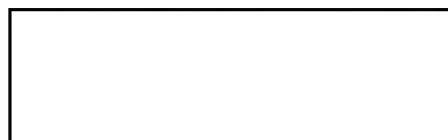
Jim
Lan LSK
DPS-0310
1 OF 1

12 December 1958

Dear Sid:

We are recommending to Perkin Elmer Corporation that further tests on Configuration C be conducted by the Photo Lab at Wright Field. Enclosed is a copy of our letter to Perkin Elmer Corp. which states the reasons for this recommendation.

We will be happy to provide you or the lab with such technical assistance as is required to conduct the tests if you so desire.



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DOCUMENT NO. _____
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☒
DECLASSIFIED
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HF 32-27
Lan LSK

12 December 1958

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The Perkin-Elmer Corporation
Attention: Contract Administrator
Subject: Contract dated 24 June 1958

Dear Sir:

After careful reevaluation of the progress made on the C Configuration program during the past 3 months this contractor recommends that the C Configuration, the 300" Collimator, and any necessary ground handling equipment be furnished to the Photographic Laboratories at Wright Field for an independent and unbiased evaluation of both optical and the electro-mechanical sections of the C Configuration.

This recommendation is made for the following reasons:

Optics

In the course of the Configuration C program and specifically at the conference held on 10 December 1958 we have been verbally advised that the optical system of this configuration has been improved considerably. There have been, however, no recent recorded test results to substantiate these statements. We have requested repeatedly that flight tests be made and in-flight performance be evaluated. These requests were refused and we were advised that a ground test program was to be conducted to evaluate photographic performance. The ground test program was initiated but no results were obtained. You have advised this Contractor that the reason the ground test program could not be completed was because the 300" Collimator did not function properly. We do not understand, however, the technical explanation given to us as the reason for the non-performance of the 300" Collimator at the Test Site. Although you have verbally assured us on numerous occasions that the optical system is in satisfactory condition and capable of high performance we believe an independent evaluation of this capability should be made.

Electro-Mechanical

Commencing at the time the first pieces of Configuration C hardware became available and as a normal part of our engineering effort we have conducted a systematic program of gathering performance data. As a result of this program we have been able to continuously improve the electro-mechanical performance and reliability of the Configuration C. It is our opinion now that the present effectivity of the electro-mechanical portion of the Configuration C is comparable to that of the B Configuration system at the same stage of its development. This performance, however, can only be factually demonstrated by ground and flight tests which we have been precluded from completing during recent weeks. Since, in your stated opinion, there remains a doubt that the electro-mechanical portion of the system is satisfactory and capable of high performance, we believe this too should be independently evaluated.

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It is believed to be in the best interest of the Government from the standpoint of future costs on this program as well as the need for a factual report of potential capabilities to have future tests on the Configuration C accomplished by the Photographic Laboratories at AMC headquarters, Wright Field.

In accordance with your instructions no further costs will be incurred by this contractor in the performance of the statement of work on the subject contract except at your specific direction.

Very truly yours,

HYCON MFG. COMPANY



Vice-President, Engineering

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cc: Sid Brewer

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